

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNWFC, FAO, EAGR, EAID, PORG

SUBJECT: U.S. AIDE-MEMOIRE ON RECONSTITUTION OF INTERGOVERN-
MENTAL COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD PROGRAM

REF: ROME 2050

SUMMARY: FAO SOURCES REPORT THAT U.S. AIDE-MEMOIRE WAS MOST HELPFUL AND LED TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN UN SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM AND FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL BOERMA TO HOLD INTER-AGENCY DISCUSSIONS BEFORE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD PROGRAM MEETING MARCH 17 TO WORK OUT HANDLING OF PROBLEM OF RECONSTITUTION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMS. WORLD FOOD COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOHN HANNAH WISHES TO DEFER ACTUAL RECONSTITUTION TO LATER DATE, TO AVOID DISTURBING DELICATE EQUAL BALANCE OF DONORS AND RECIPIENTS. END SUMMARY

1. FAO DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL JACKSON SAYS THAT U.S. AIDE-MEMOIRE HELPED LEAD FAO-UN DISCUSSIONS FEBRUARY 11 TO AGREE-
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MENT TO CONVENE INTER-AGENCY DISCUSSIONS BEFORE MEETING OF

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM MARCH 17 TO WORK OUT HANDLING OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE RESOLUTION REQUIRING RECONSTITUTION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE AS FOOD AID COMMITTEE OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. UN SECRETARY GENERAL HAD WRITTEN LETTER OPPOSING PLAN SUGGESTED BY WORLD FOOD PROGRAM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AQUINO, ON GROUNDS HE DID NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO CONVENE OPEN-ENDED MEETING SUGGESTED BY AQUINO, BUT NOW AGREES THAT PROBLEM MUST BE DISCUSSED IN IGC MEETING IN MARCH. FAO DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL JACKSON SAID WALDHEIM HAD NOT BEEN PERSONALLY DIRECTING UN SECRETARIAT ACTION ON THIS QUESTION, BUT HAD BEEN FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS OF HIS STAFF WITHOUT REALLY COMMITTING HIMSELF FIRMLY.

2. WORLD FOOD COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOHN HANNAH SAYS HE DOES NOT AGREE WITH U.S. AIDE-MEMOIRE, ARGUING THAT DELICATE EQUAL BALANCE OF DONOR-RECIPIENTS SHOULD BE PRESERVED IN WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, AND RECONSTITUTION SHOULD BE DEFERRED FOR SOME TIME.

3. VIEWS OF OFFICE OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO ON THIS QUESTION WILL FOLLOW IN SEPARATE TELEGRAM. VOLPE

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